

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-16 and 19-25.

Please amend claims 17 and 18 as follows:

Please substitute the following claim 17 for the currently pending claim 17:

17. (Amended) A method of adding an additional instrument to a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

removing an original dashboard bezel from said vehicle so as to expose a bezel mounting space, said original dashboard bezel possessing no instrument mounts;

installing an instrument bezel in said bezel mounting space, said instrument bezel having (i) a body substantially conforming in dimension to said original dashboard bezel, and (ii) an instrument mount secured to said body, said instrument mount being adapted to retain said additional instrument; and

mounting said additional instrument in said instrument mount.

Please substitute the following claim 18 for the currently pending claim 18:

18. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said mounting step is performed prior to said installing step.

Please add the following claims 26-51 as follows:

26. (New) A method of adding an additional instrument to a vehicle having a dashboard housing and an instrument cluster assembly, comprising the steps of:

removing an original dashboard bezel from a bezel mounting space defined between said dashboard housing and said instrument cluster assembly, said original dashboard bezel possessing no instrument mounts;

installing a replacement dashboard bezel in said bezel mounting space, said replacement dashboard bezel having (i) a body substantially conforming in dimension to said original dashboard bezel, and (ii) at least one instrument mount; and

locating an instrument in said at least one instrument mount.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said locating step occurs after said installing step.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said locating step occurs before said installing step.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said at least one instrument mount includes an opening configured to receive said additional instrument.

30. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein:

 said instrument cluster assembly includes a window and a speedometer,

 said speedometer is located on a backside of said window whereby a driver of said vehicle may view said speedometer through said window, and

 said instrument mount is located on a front side of said window after said replacement dashboard bezel is installed in said installing step.

31. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said instrument cluster assembly includes a speedometer.

32. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein:

 said dashboard housing includes a rim which defines a viewing opening through which a driver of said vehicle may view said instrument cluster assembly, and

 said installing step includes the step of securing said replacement dashboard bezel adjacent to said rim.

33. (New) An after-market dashboard bezel, comprising:

a body configured to be mounted in a bezel mounting space defined between a dashboard housing and an instrument cluster assembly of a vehicle; and

an instrument mount secured to said body.

34. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 33, wherein said instrument mount is integrally formed with said body.

35. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 33, wherein:

said body is formed by an upper body portion, a lower body portion, a right side portion coupled to a first side of said upper body portion and a first side of said lower body portion, and a left side portion coupled to a second side of said upper body portion and a second side of said lower body portion, and

said upper body portion, said lower body portion, said right side portion, and left side portion collectively define a viewing opening.

36. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 35, wherein said upper body portion, said lower body portion, said right side portion, and left side portion of said body are integrally formed with one another.

37. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 35, wherein said instrument mount is positioned proximate to said lower body portion.

38. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 37, further comprising a second instrument mount disposed proximate said lower body portion.

39. (New) The after-market dashboard bezel of claim 38, wherein: said first instrument mount is positioned proximate to said right side portion, and

 said second instrument mount is positioned proximate to said left side portion.

40. (New) A method of modifying a vehicle having a dashboard housing and an instrument cluster assembly, comprising the steps of:

 removing an original dashboard bezel from a bezel mounting space defined between said dashboard housing and said instrument cluster assembly, said original dashboard bezel possessing no instrument mounts; and
 installing a replacement dashboard bezel in said bezel mounting space, said replacement dashboard bezel having at least one instrument mount.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said at least one instrument mount is configured to retain an additional instrument.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein:

 said instrument cluster assembly includes a window and a speedometer,

 said speedometer is located on a backside of said window whereby a

 driver of said vehicle may view said speedometer through said window, and

 said instrument mount is located on a front side of said window after said

 replacement dashboard bezel is installed in said installing step.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said instrument cluster

assembly includes a speedometer.

44. (New) The instrument bezel of claim 40, wherein:

 said dashboard housing includes a rim which defines a viewing opening

 through which a driver of said vehicle may view said instrument cluster

 assembly, and

 said installing step includes the step of securing said replacement

 dashboard bezel adjacent to said rim.

45. (New) A kit for mounting an after-market dashboard bezel in a vehicle, comprising:

an after-market dashboard bezel including (i) a body configured to be mounted in a bezel mounting space defined between a dashboard housing and an instrument cluster assembly of said vehicle, and (ii) an instrument mount secured to said body; and

a number of printed instructions for installing said after-market dashboard bezel in said vehicle.

46. (New) The kit of claim 45, wherein said instrument mount is integrally formed with said body.

47. (New) The kit of claim 45, wherein:

said body is formed by an upper body portion, a lower body portion, a right side portion coupled to a first side of said upper body portion and a first side of said lower body portion, and a left side portion coupled to a second side of said upper body portion and a second side of said lower body portion, and said upper body portion, said lower body portion, said right side portion, and left side portion collectively define a viewing opening.

48. (New) The kit of claim 47, wherein said upper body portion, said lower body portion, said right side portion, and left side portion of said body are integrally formed with one another.

49. (New) The kit of claim 47, wherein said instrument mount is positioned proximate to said lower body portion.

50. (New) The kit of claim 49, further comprising a second instrument mount disposed proximate said lower body portion.

51. (New) The kit of claim 50, wherein:
said first instrument mount is positioned proximate to said right side portion, and
said second instrument mount is positioned proximate to said left side portion.